Church Life

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The Anniversary Sermon

The following is an outline of the sermon preached by Rev. Austen K. de Blois, Ph. D., at the celebration of the seventieth anniversary of the First Baptist Church, of Chicago.

Isaiah 51:1-3. "Look to the rock whence ye are hewn; * * * for the Lord shall comfort Zion."

We are gathered to day to remember the gracious dealings of our Heavenly Father with the people of this church through the long years of its varied history, and to pray that his benediction may rest upon the plans and work of the future. Like a rock in the midst of the angry waters, like a beacon flashing forth its message of hope in the midst of the hurrying storms, like a fortress unassailable, this church has stood for three score years and ten, in the midst of the currents and cross-currents of a rapidly-developing and intricate civilization. It behooves us today to recount briefly the reasons for our jubilee, and to gather courage from a brief review of some of the heroic passages in the volume of the past.

I. Consider the historic precedence which this church enjoys.

The first Christian resident of the wretched village of Fort Dearborn, which has grown into our splendid twentieth century city was a member of a Baptist church. She was the wife of one of the officers and lived with her husband in the barracks. The first sermon preached in the settlement was delivered by Isaac McCoy, an Indian missionary, who belonged to the Baptist denomination. The first place of worship ever erected in Chicago was built by this First Baptist Church. The first settled minister of any denomination in Chicago was Rev. Allan B. Freeman the first pastor of this First Baptist Church. The first Sunday School in continuous session was established by members of this First Baptist Church. The first Temperance Society was started by members of this First Baptist Church, and Dr. Temple, one of the founders of the church, was the first president of that organization. The Chicago Bible Society was organized by members of this First Baptist Church and one of its pastors was the first president of the society. The Young Men's Christian Association had a member of the First Baptist Church for its first president and one-third of its constituent members were members of this church. The Baptist denominational journals published in this city, the old University of Chicago, and the Theological Seminary, now the Divinity School of the University of Chicago, all had their origin in the efforts of pastors and members of this First Baptist Church. The founder of the International Sunday School lessons was for more than a quarter of a century a member of this church and intimately identified with the interests of both church and Sunday School. Almost every Baptist Church in the City of Chicago is directly or indirectly the outgrowth of the church whose anniversary we today commemorate. No other church of any denomination in the City of Chicago has been so thoroughly identified with the inauguration of the moral, philanthropic and religious forces of the city.

II. Consider the heroisms of this church.

The foundations of our church were laid in self-sacrificing devotions and dedications, and the influence of these have permeated its entire life and history. There is nothing more genuinely noble than the picture of the young man, Allan B. Freeman, carefully reared and college-trained,

turning after graduation toward the untamed west, not to earn a fortune, not to engage in those wild and adventurous exploits which the heart of the young man craves, but to plant in this wilderness, side by side with the Stars and Stripes, the banner of the Cross of Calvary. And can anything be more glorious or more pathetic than his death? He is the only Baptist minister within 150 miles. People are eager to hear the gospel. They travel 8, 10, 15 miles to hear a sermon. Conversions abound in the wide districts through which he travels. As Livingstone felt the burden of Africa and Carey of India and Despard of Patagonia, so this young man, standing in Christ's stead and with Christ's message on his lips, feels himself to be a debtor to the whole vast region around him. Not heat nor cold, not storm nor flood, can detain or daunt his eager spirit. Caught in a driving rain on his way from a visit of mercy to some small settlement distant from the city, his poor body, already weary and weak through over-exertion, becomes a prey to disease, which hastens on to a fatal ending, and he lays down his rich and virtuous life to grasp the sceptre of immortality. He was a martyr to the cause of love. So in every age the soldiers of faith have died for God that His gospel might have free course and be glorified.

There have been heroisms in the later days. Mission after mission was started and supported by the self devotion of the members who saw the encampments of Satan in the by-ways of the city and resolved to measure lances with his unholy legions. Company after company of faithful people said their farewells to the mother church and established homes for themselves in the northern, southern and western sections of our city, followed ever by the hearty "God be with you" of those remaining. At one time, as we were reminded on Wednesday evening, the pastor and 250 of the members, representing forty per cent of the financial strength of the church, withdrew to aid the struggling interests on Michigan avenue and to found the Immanuel Church, which for so long a time has been a "bulwark of power" to the religious life of our city. Can any parallel be found to this event? It required a whole-souled zeal for the interests of the Kingdom, both on the part of those who went and on the part of those who "stayed by the stuff." After each and every one of these departures the fearful and unbelieving prophesied that the First Church would be weakened and crippled. This would have been so in the case of a less worthy and loyal organization, but the inherent strength of this church is superb and splendid. With that indomitable vitality which has characterized its entire history the church has marched on to new triumphs in the name of the Divine Master.

III. What have been the underlying principles of the church?

It will readily be understood from what I have already said that the religious establishment of which we are today a part, has been loyal to the elemental underlying truths of the gospel of Jesus Christ. There has been no halting and no hesitancy in the devotion of pastors and people to the faith of Jesus Christ.

This church has represented **the permanent in the midst of the transitory.** How strong is the contrast between the Chicago of 1833 and the city of today? Instead of the marshes and prairies there are gigantic temples of commerce and emporiums of trade. Instead of a few pioneers we have a population of nearly two millions. Instead of a simple and primitive life there centre here the forces of intense and many-sided civilization of the world. Instead of settlers from New York and New England our people belong to every nation and every language beneath the skies. Instead of hard and rude conditions the home and store and office are equipped with every convenience which the genius of modern invention has devised. The character of the transformation is without parallel in the entire history of the human race. And through it all, in the midst of changes, panics, cataclysms, conflagrations, this old First Baptist Church has stood a witness to the presence of the Almighty God, whose years do not change, and to the Truth revealed in his Only Begotten Son, who is "the same yesterday, today and forever."

The voice of the Father in Heaven has spoken to his children times without number, saying "Tarry thou here and witness for me, within sound of the hurrying feet of the restless changing throngs. Thou shalt be as a city set upon a hill, which cannot be hid. Thy light shall shine forth into the dark corners and desolate places of this great and wicked Babylon." Men have come and gone. Fortunes have been made and lost. A city has been built and burned—and built again. Architect and carpenter and mason have planned

and wrought, and their plans and work have been torn down, thrown aside, swept away, to make room for broader plans and statelier structures. Like the shifting waves of the lake by whose waters we have our homes, like the varying aspects of our changing skies, have been the habits and life of our noisy busy people. But in it all and through it all, the body and substance, the life and purpose, of this Old First Baptist Church have remained the same changeless and unchangeable. Though adapting its methods to new needs and new conditions, it has ever stood firmly for the "One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism."

The ideal of the ministry has been "the one far-off divine event toward which the whole creation moves."

Also this church has represented **the true in the midst of the false and superficial.**

When I mention the names of Dr. Temple and Lewis Raymond and Chas. Walker and Cyrus Bentley—a host of others might be named—you say, "These men represent Truth." When I speak of the old University of Chicago, the early religious journals of our city, the Theological Seminary, the Chicago Bible Society, you say, "These movements represent the progress of the Spirit of Truth," and the founders of all those movements in this city were connected with the church. As I name the missionary and evangelistic and philanthropic activities which this church has inaugurated and with which it has been identified for three score years and ten you say, "These likewise represent Truth, the aggressive outgrowth of Truth in the midst of the life of the community, city and nation." Truth-loving men—truth-creating movements—truth-impelling activities, have been vitally associated with this pioneer Baptist Church from its earliest days until now.

There is truth in the forum; there is also truth in the temple. This church has been loyal to the truth in its relations with men, as well as in its relations with God. It has been essentially a Gospel-loving church. We heard on Wednesday evening reminiscences by those who had known the men themselves, of the profound and scholarly Hinton, the remarkably brilliant Howard, the large-souled Elisha Tucker, the energetic Burroughs, the statesman-like Everts, the eloquent Lorimer, the versatile and vigorous Henson. These pastors of our church were all gospel preachers. Theirs was no message of questioning uncertainty. The faith of the crucified and risen and victorious Christ has been the bright, peculiar star which this church has followed throughout all its journeyings. Many have gone from the realms of mortal faith to rejoice in the perfect vision of their glorified Redeemer. They are in the presence of the King today. It is our place and duty, remembering their lives, to gain the truth, to live the truth, to herald the truth abroad.

"They scaled the steep ascent of Heaven,
Through peril, toil and pain;
Oh, God! to us may grace be given
To follow in their train!"

The river may be turbulent and noisy where rapids and shoals abound. You look for the buoys and stakes which show the channel. In our confused and intense life there are many shallows and many rocks beneath the surface. We need churches of the Living God that shall point the channel where the waters run deep and true, that the man may guide his life in safety through the dangers that abound. It has been the high privilege of this church, after such fashion, to point the way of life.

IV. The resources of the church.

What today are our resources? Our noble and beautiful church edifice is entirely free from every incumbrance. We have no floating debt. Our church is paying its way without any deficits. Few if any Baptist churches in our city are in such excellent condition financially. Many of them are groaning under heavy debts; one of $25,000; one of $40,000, and so forth. But better than our splendid financial condition is the spirit of unity and fellowship which exists among our members. More than this, our church is loyal to the denomination. It should be. For seventy years it has had a place of leadership amongst all the churches of the west. Today—taking it financially, socially, philanthropically, spiritually—taking it altogether in its various influences and relationships—it is much the strongest church of our faith in the city of Chicago and indeed, in the entire northwest. It is loyal also to the traditions of the past. Many members live at long distances. But they retain the deep affection for the church and although they may not attend many of our services their prayers and sympathies are with us. Instead of yielding to the very convenient plan of going to some church nearer them, they give their support to the grand old church which today is facing new problems and entering into

new and larger opportunities, and which they know needs their financial help, their efforts, and their sympathies, to enable it to meet the new conditions triumphantly and solve the new problems royally and rightly.

V. So, finally, what is the outlook for our church?

We have still a family church. I hope it will always remain so. The weakness of the institutional church is its lack of a strong central body of devoted families whose interests have been bound up with the life of the church itself. Too often these institutional churches, the creation of some one strong man and his methods, languish and fail when that element is withdrawn. There are many illustrations of this fact. Some of the older families here have died out and their children have moved to other parts of the city and ceased connection with the church, but other families, just as true and loyal, have joined with us and are becoming every day more closely identified with us. We have not a very large number of very wealthy men in our membership, but we have a large and growing body of men who are well-to-do or in good positions in the city, who are working with us. Churches of this kind are usually stronger than the very wealthy churches. We have a large membership and with the system which is followed at present we are able to know at any given time our real spiritual strength. We must stay where we are, we must reach out into the community. Howard Crosby said shortly before his death, "New York will be evangelized when every Christian becomes an evalgelist." Let it be our object to become genuine evangelists, helping and blessing the people amongst whom our home is placed.

To do this we must organize our forces more perfectly. We must also wait upon God and expect his blessing. We need virility. We need to incorporate the ideals of a strenuous life in our churchly and Christly service. We need to develop efficiency. We need above all, the power of the Spirit of the living Christ. May His Divine Spirit move in the midst of all our various activities and guide us from strength to strength, from victory to victory!

Mrs. Sarah E. Duffield

In Memoriam

Mrs. Sarah E. Duffield, widow of the late Charles Duffield, passed to the Homeland on the morning of January twenty-ninth, after several years of invalidism and nine months of the most intense suffering.

She was born in Glocester, Mass., September tenth, eighteen hundred and twenty-two, and moved with her parents to Cincinnati when a very young child. Her father, Samuel Cloon, purchased the old Indian fort on the river bank from the government, which he remodeled for his place of business and temporary home. Some years later he bought a large farm in the immediate vicinity, which is now covered by the beautiful suburb of Avondale.

In this country home, Sarah Cloon spent her young womanhood under the influence of a pious New England mother. Being an only daughter she received the best education which the new western city could offer a young lady at that time. Being an accomplished musician, possessed of great personal beauty and dignity of character, she became a favorite in Cincinnati society. She united with the Ninth Street Baptist Church under the pastorate of Dr. Samuel Lynde, when about eighteen years of age. She was married to Charles Duffield in 1841, and was the mother of ten children, all but two of whom survive her.

About 1850 Mr. Duffield moved his family to Louisville, Ky., where, until the Civil War, he carried on a very successful business. The Walnut Street Baptist Church became their church home. Mr. Duffield was elected a deacon, and both husband and wife became very active and influential members. Their home was known all through the south as headquarters for all visiting ministers, who were ever welcome guests. But the disasters of the Civil War fell heavily upon the family. Mr. Duffield's business interests were entirely destroyed and in 1863 he followed his beloved pastor, the Rev. Dr. W. W. Everts to Chicago, uniting with the First Baptist

Church where he served as a deacon until his death in 1890.

Mr. and Mrs. Duffield led a model Christian married life. They ever maintained, through prosperity and adversity, the same beautiful spirit in their family and church relations. Regrets they suffered for loss of fortune but regrets only because they could not do for church and children as in times of prosperity. They were so closely united in all ways that it is difficult to separate them even in thought.

The key note in Mrs. Duffield's character was faithfulness in all matters of duty. She was a model mother, as well as an exemplary Christian; was modest to diffidence in her church work and while ever ready, in times of health, to do her share, she never could be induced to hold an office or accept a position of leadership It was in the home that she was best appreciated. To her children she was the wise counselor and faithful friend. In the management of her family she was remarkably systematic. Personal neatness was a prominent characteristic. Self-control was another happy trait. She never indulged in outbursts of temper and while she sometimes showed a righteous indignation of wrong doing on the part of others, she never became angry. She was never known to indulge in slang. She had a natural gift of language, and excelled as a letter writer. Her quiet dignity commanded the respect of all with whom she came in contact.

In these last months of bodily pain, such as few human beings are called upon to endure, she bore her sufferings with the patience which only the power of Christ can give; a prayer for courage to endure was ever on her lips. Her love of the Scriptures continued to the end. When her eyes were too weak to see and hands too feeble to hold her Bible, some members of her family read to her the chapters of her own selection, at the close of which she always lifted her heart to God in silent prayer. The valley of the shadow of death so dark and dreary, so long and rugged, was to her a veritable "door of hope," and when she silently passed through its portal all rejoiced with her that she was freed from pain and had entered at last into the "Father's House." She was laid to rest in the beautiful cemetery of Spring Grove, near Cincinnati, beside her loved husband and daughters.

The Church at Work

Sunday School

R. J. Pickett, Dept. Editor

We esteem it a great privilege to be allowed to address the members of our church each month, through this department of our new church paper. We believe that you are interested in this most important work of our church—the Sunday School, and we shall strive to keep you so thoroughly informed about this work that your interest will be even increased.

Officers

As has already been announced in the report of the annual meeting, the church has elected the following officers for the present year:

C. E. Whitmore, Superintendent.
James Barron, Ass't Superintendent.
Robert J. Pickett, Secretary.
Chas. H. Stone, Treasurer.
Chas. W. Henson, Librarian.

The complete list of those appointed to act upon committees and to assist in the different departments will be given next month.

Teachers

We give below the roll of teachers who now have classes in our school. We do this so that you may know to whom you send your children for their religious instruction. We trust that this corps of faithful teachers will give you confidence and enthusiasm to invite your neighbors and your neighbors' children and perhaps to invite your own self. From time to time the changes in our teaching force will be noted.

Bible Classes

Mrs. H. F. Googins, Amoret Henson Guild Class.

Deacon Hervey F. Mallory, Men's League Class.

Deacon John P. Ahrens, Adult Class.

Primary and Intermediate Departments

Miss Edith Ahrens
Miss Leila Ahrens
Mrs. F. C. Bennett
Miss Ida Barstow
Mrs. A. E. Cochrane
Mrs. R. N. Clarke
Miss Rubie Day
Miss Jessie Donald
Miss Althea Eldred
Mrs. G. E. Elkin
Miss Van Fradenburg
Miss Mabel Fortune
Miss Marie Kilbourne
Mrs. S. C. King
Miss Stella Lyman
Mrs. S. B. Lingle
Miss Mary Lewis
Miss Elizabeth Lingle
Miss Livermore
Mrs. C. H. Marshall
Miss Fannie Marshall
Miss Fanie Marshall
Mrs. J. S. McCullough

Miss Daisy Marx
Miss May Fralick
Mrs. C. G. Fish
Mrs. J. F. Gillette
Mrs. O. S. Green
Miss Clara V. Gawne
Miss Fannie Googins
Mrs. C. W. Howison
Miss Blanche Harvey
Mrs. J. A. Hessler
Miss L. Henderson
Mrs. A. E. Hamlin
Mrs. A. S. Jones
Mrs. G. A. Jackman
Mrs. T. L. Ketman
Miss B. F. Kellow
Mrs. W. R. Newell
Miss E. Pickett
Miss Helen Pickett
Miss L. Pritchard
Miss Laura Power
Miss Maud Robinson
Miss Grace T. Smith

Miss J. Stedman
Miss F. P. Smith
Miss Clara Stowell
Miss L. M. Tolman
Miss Isabel Wilkin
Mrs. William Wigney
Miss Ida D. Witte
Mrs. A. O. Ware
Miss M. E. Young

S. T. Allen
Dr. W. H. Gale
Clifford Gaylord
F. W. Griffing
C. H. Holman
B. C. Lingle
Henry Pope
C. A. Pienkowsky
Arthur R. Rhenisch
W. B. Raymond
Walter Tucker
Deacon Wm. Wigney
Cassius J. Williamson

Home Department Visitors

Mrs. John W. Bilton
Mrs. H. G. Bowles
Miss E. E. Follett
Miss A. M. Georgette
Mrs. C. F. Harvey
Mrs. C. A. Havens
Mrs. A. S. Jones

Miss Isabelle Lauver
Mrs. S. B. Lingle
[illegible]man
[illegible]ley
[illegible]Cohan
[illegible] McFadden
Mrs. C. A. Pienkowsky

Mrs. W. S. Pickett
Mrs. Wm. Raymond
Mrs. C. R. Stouffer
Miss F. P. Smith
Mrs. A. E. Thomas
Mrs. Theodore Wilkin

Teachers' Social

The January social was an opportunity well improved by the new officers. In a stirring address Superintendent Whitmore encouraged us to new endeavor and outlined several possibilities, which are to be made realities in the near future, by the consecrated and united efforts of the most faithful corps of teachers that is to be found in the great army of Sunday School workers.

An informal vote taken by the Superintendent developed a large majority in favor of holding our annual picnic in one of the city parks. From the discussion the sense of the meeting seemed to be, that in this way, more of us would get together in God's "Out of Doors," with less danger and smaller expense; and that we would have finer picnic grounds and a more enjoyable day. Notice will be given in these columns of the plans for the picnic when the weather is more propitious for their enthusiastic reception.

Come! Join! Work!

The Bible School is the one organization of the Church in which every man, woman and child are eligible to membership. We are pledged to give the best that is in us to this work and we desire each one to be related in some way to the School. Our enrollment extends from the cradle to the grave.

There is a place for every one in the several departments—Cradle Roll, Junior, Primary, Primary, Intermediate, Bible Classes, Home Department. Attend our Sunday morning if you can, either as teacher or scholar. If this is not possible join the Home Department.

Christian Endeavor

Miss E. Pickett, Dept. Editor

The first meeting of the Christian Endeavor Society in 1904 was during the Week of Prayer, when our Pastor gave us a most helpful and appropriate talk on "The growth I need in 1904." The following Friday evening the thought of the missionary meeting was "Individual responsibility for missionary work." God

requires our service, His command is "Go" have we then been called to stay? If so let us send a substitute. We are not merely to attempt missionary work, we are to "go, preach," and "baptize" in the name and for the sake of Jesus Chirst.

In the midst of many things that made our church a hive of busy life on Monday evening, Jan. 18, the Christian Endeavor Society gathered for committee conferences in the upper Sunday School rooms. Many helpful things were suggested by the various committees.

In the general conference which followed the Lookout Committee pleaded earnestly for deeper spiritual life among our members and greater faithfulness to the pledge. Let all be on the lookout for new members, both active and associate. We hope greatly to increase the membership of our Society in the next six months. One Society not far from us, gained about thirty-five new members in two months. Can we not do as well?

The Prayer Meeting Committee announced that a quiet hour service would be held every Friday evening at 7:45, for prayer for God's blessing upon the following meeting. It is hoped that many will avail themselves of this privilege. Plans are also under way for some special services which will be announced as they come. Watch the notices.

The Missionary Committee is preparing some very interesting new work in mission study for the Society, hoping to give the members better knowledge of missions and the missionaries on their field of work. To accomplish this they ask the co-operation of the entire membership. The missionary topic for February is Africa. The work in the various states will be presented so as to bring before us the needs of the whole "Dark Continent."

It would take too long to record all that the committees are planning for the next six months. Come to our prayer meetings promptly at eight o'clock and learn for yourself what we are doing. Enthusiasm, energy and earnestness characterized the conference, giving us all new inspiration and encouraging us to push forward all the work of our Society. In the Master's strength we can accomplish a great work in this community.

"Sunshine Band"

All will be glad to know that Mrs. Ketman has been taking charge of the "Sunshine Band" since Miss Durfee left us for the wast, and the little ones have had happy times each Sunday afternoon.

Junior Society

The attendance among the Juniors has been steadily increasing, especially among the boys. A prize has been offered to the one that brings in the largest number of new scholars during the next six weeks. This will be awarded at their next social.

The Juniors continue to go to the Baptist Hospital and for the last few weeks several of them have entertained those shut in over there by singing the songs they sing at the meetings.

Mrs. Ware spoke to them on January 24th and they are looking forward to the time when she will come again. On the same Sunday four received prizes for attendance for seventeen Sundays.

We are always very glad to see any of our friends who may enjoy visiting us any Sunday at three o'clock.

Intermediate Society

For the missionary meeting of this Society Jan. 24, we enjoyed reading selections from "The Cobra's Den," a book of the experiences of a medical missionary in India. We are anxious to increase the attendance of the Intermediate Society. Come and share the blessings and pleasures of our meetings with us, Sunday afternoon at three o'clock.

South Division Union

On Thursday evening, March 10th, we will have the pleasure of welcoming to our church the South Division Union for conferences on Prayer meeting, Social and Lookout Committee work. Talks of eight or ten minutes well be given on each topic, followed by general discussions. A social hour at the close will give us an opportunity to get acquainted with neighboring Endeavorers. All of our members are expected to be present to welcome the visitors.

Chicago Union

We wish to call the attention of all our young people to the all-day missionary meeeting to be held Feb. 22 in the auditorium of the Young Men's Christian Association, 153 LaSalle street. There will be three sessions, morning, afternoon and evening, in which the Student Volunteers, the Chicago Christian Endeavor Union, the Baptist Young People's Union, and the Epworth Leagues of the city will be represented.

Ladies' Benevolent Society

Mrs. W. Morava, Dep't. Editor

As the first Friday in January was a holiday, the Ladies' Benevolent Society held their monthly business meeting on December 31st—with sixty-three in attendance. We were very glad to have Mrs. G. W. Haskins and her daughter, Mrs. Gibson with us.

On January 15th seventy-nine ladies joined in the work of love. Mrs. C. W. Marshall was enrolled as a member of the Society.

On January 29th, eighty-one ladies responded to a call for a special meeting, and accomplished much extra work. Miss Ruby Day resigned from the Table Committee and Miss Little was given her place.

About ninety-seven garments, six comforts and three quilts, which has been finished during the month, prove that there are few idle fingers.

Embroidery Tea

Mrs. Downe and Mrs. Spencer very cordially invited the ladies to the home of Mrs. Downe on January 20th for an Embroidery Tea. On that day it was raining but in spite of the dismal outlook, about thirty braved the weather and passing out of the gloom of the disagreeable day into Mrs. Downe's beautiful home, all aglow with warmth and light, found that Mrs. Spencer and Mrs. Downe could make sunshine enough for all. Those who attended were well repaid for their effort.

Society Notes

Mrs. H. C. Combs has gone to Maryland for the remainder of the winter.

We sympathize with Mrs. Tolman in the death of her son, Mr. Henry Tolman of Evanston.

On Friday morning, January twenty-ninth, Mrs. S. E. Duffield, one of our oldest and most esteemed members, whose beautiful life has always scattered fragrance and sunshine, peacefully fell asleep to awaken in glory.

Women's Mission Circle

Mrs. S. B. Lingle, Dept. Editor

At the meeting of the Women's Mission Circle held on Jan. 8th, a very interesting program was given which presented the Christian work in all parts of the great continent of Africa.

The study was arranged by Mrs. McFadden, and was given by a large number of ladies. Mrs. W. E. Smith told of the condition of the Barbary States; Mrs. C. E. Harvey, of Egypt, and the work of the United Presbyterians and the schools established by them; Mrs. Wigney, of Abyssinia—the Switzerland of Africa; and Mrs. Heath, of Zanzibar; Mrs. Moors, of the work in Liberia, and of Bishop Taylor under the Methodist Board; Mrs. Stanley Pickett, of Sierra Leon, and the patient labors of Mrs. Johnson sent out by the English Lutheran Church.

The lives of the pioneer missionaries, Robt. Moffatt and David Livingston were given by Miss Day and Miss Green, and Mrs. Bilton gave an account of Henry Stanley's life and his long search for Livingston. Mrs. McFadden then described the Congo Valley, and the successful work of our denomination during the last twenty years.

A letter from Miss Parrott, enroute for India, written in sight of the Dark Continent was read by Mrs. Hinckley.

The sweet singing of the plaintive negro melodies by two of our members was an especial pleasure at this meeting.

Circle Notes

The Circle finding themselves entitled by their contributions to a life membership in the Woman's Home Mission Society chose Mrs. Logan for this appointment.

The thanks of the Circle are due to Mr. Rhenisch for the complete map of Africa, which assisted to make their last meeting an interesting one.

Women's Mission Union

The Women's Mission Union which met at the Lexington Avenue Church on Jan. 12th was well attended although the day was stormy.

The reports in the morning represented the many Circles of which the Union is composed. At the afternoon session Mrs. Regan held the attention of all as she told of the school work on our foreign mission fields. Miss Burdett's full account of her recent journey among the home mission fields of the west was full of hopefulness.

Amoret Henson Guild

Miss B. Harvey, Dep't. Editor

The first meeting of the Amoret Henson Guild for the new year was a delightful one, and well attended in spite of the severe weather.

The supper hour, was, as usual, most enjoyable, and when, after a short business meeting, the girls adjourned to their classes, they proved by their earnest work, how great their interest has become in these several lines of activity.

The class in basket-weaving is thriving under Miss Lackner's supervision, and thirteen or more baskets were well under process of construction at this meeting.

In the lecture room, the Glee Club did some excellent work under Mr. Haven's wise direction. The club has been growing in numbers and the work has been most interesting during the past three months. Indeed this particular branch of our work has become so helpful in reaching young women outside of the church, that we feel it demands the loyal support of the entire church, as well as of the Guild members themselves.

On this account a committee has been working, for the past few weeks, in making arrangements for an entertainment to be given for the benefit of the Guild work, but more particularly for the permanent maintainanee of the Glee Club. The Glee Club affords to girls, interested in music, a growth along that line, as well as the delightful association that is characteristic of such study. We wish to make this phase of the work independent of a fee from the girls whom we invite to join. For this reason and because we feel that much good may be done through it, we ask your kind consideration when we approach you with tickets. Every effort is being made to make the program a most interesting one. It will consist of Gibson Pictures, and Reveries of a Bachelor in tableaux, and the Glee Club itself will make its first public appearance. The program will be unique in character—in short, you really can't afford to miss it and the only way you can fully appreciate its unusual points will be to see it for yourself. The date is February twenty-fifth.

Each member of the Guild has been provided with at least ten tickets to sell, so be prepared to purchase, not one, but many!

Men's League

C. M. Clark, Dep't. Editor

The two meetings of the League in January were most encouraging. At both meetings the majority of those present were not members of the church or of the League. In fact we needed more of our own members present in order to make our many guests at home.

The programs on both evenings were attractive ones, such as to invite a large attendance of the men of our neighborhood.

On January 4 the speaker was Mr. A. F. Sheldon, President of the Sheldon School of Salemanship. This meeting promised to men some practical help toward business success, and of course they came. The music was furnished by Mr. Knorr, whose tenor solos were much enjoyed.

Of quite a different character yet fully as successful was the meeting on January 18. It was a jolly evening of good fellowship. Mr. George M. Krebs gave some clever readings and Barney's Trio furnished popular music.

These meetings with their large attendance of non-members, with their excellent programs and charming spirit, have certainly showed some of the possibilities of the League in realizing its great purpose to reach the men of our neighborhood.

We congratulate the Social Committee on the success of these meetings. Let us have more of such evenings and certainly let us have more members present to act as hosts.

Young Ladies' Missionary Society

Miss E. G. Gale, Dept. Editor

The Society met at the home of the Misses Grace and Medora Googins on the afternoon of January eighteenth, and spent some very enjoyable hours. The girls hemmed towels for the Baptist Hospital, a work which they have been doing for some time.

On Wednesday, January twenty-seventh, the girls held a Missionary Tea at the home of Miss Elizabeth Knight, 3336 Rhodes avenue. A very pleasant afternoon was spent and about eight dollars were made. A short musical program was much enjoyed by all. Miss Tucker and Miss Alma Brindley favored us with vocal selections and Miss Florence Gale played on the piano.

The girls are now getting ready for a sale which they expect to give some time in February.

Boys' Club

A. R. Rhenisch, Dept. Editor

The result of the election held at the beginning of the new year, was as follows: President, Samuel Lingle; Vice President,

(Continued on page 11.)

Church Life

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Editor

FREDERIC C. W. PARKER

Department Editors

Miss B. Harvey — L. T. Austermell
Miss E. Gale — C. M. Clark
Mrs. S. B. Lingle — H. F. Perkins
Mrs. W. Morava — R. J. Pickett
Miss E. Pickett — A. R. Rhenisch

Temple Williams, Subscription Manager

C. L. Rundell, Advertising Manager

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Editorial

We were gratified by the kindly reception accorded to the first issue of "Church Life." We are human, and we like to hear your kind words. But we are also editors, and we desire to know some of the things you left unsaid. We do not fear criticism, whether it be "lower" or "higher." Therefore express to us your suggestions, and we shall endeavor to profit by them.

The Pastor's Message

The church has one of the greatest opportunities in its history in connection with the work at Raymond Mission. In the midst of a population of 60,000, with only three other small Protestant interests in the entire field; with a large Sunday School and Industrial School, whose numbers tax the present building to the limit of its capacity; with a vigorous band of young people, thoroughly well trained in Christian service, and devoted to the work of the Mission; with the record of more than fifteen years of honorable history to bulwark the present urgent appeal for enthusiastic, liberal and sympathetic support, this department of our church life now claims our special care and wisdom. The new work in that section of the city must be neither small nor feeble. The men who are bearing the heaviest burdens now are the men who are most anxious and eager for that advance movement which shall mean for each of them a task more weighty than any they have undertaken. If they are willing we also should be willing.

My message this month is therefore exceedingly important. It is this. Let us pray, plan and toil for Raymond Mission, the beloved and noble child of this church, in these months immediately before us! God has a great work for us there in this year 1904.

Austen K. de Blois.

Resolutions

Miss Susan T. Durfee

[illegible] and friend, Miss Susan T. Durfee, has been called from her earnest and effectual labors as our Sunday School Visitor, to work for the Master in becoming the strength and sustaining comfort of loved ones in Colorado, Therefore be it

Resolved:

That in accepting the resignation of our sister, we express our sense of great loss in the departure from us of so loyal a worker and so earnest a follower of our Lord and Master;

That we express our sincere appreciation of the Christlike life, and the faithful work of our sister for our Sunday School and church during the past three years;

That we further assure her of our heartfelt desire and prayer that the Father may richly bless and use her present self- sacrificing ministrations of love, and that some future day may find her once more in the work of the church which she loved as her "home church;"

And finally that these resolutions be spread upon the records and be printed in the church paper and that a copy of the same be sent to our sister.

C. R. Stouffer.
H. F. Googins.

(Continued from page 9.)

Walter Leland; Secretary, Adrain Webster; Treasurer, Stuart Garner; Chaplain Robert Leland. Chairman of committees—Membership Harry Croston; Social, Vivian Watson; Game, William Garner; Literature, Edward Irving. The officers are taking hold with much interest, giving time and energy to the work and they earnestly desire to make the Club a success.

The Club has amended its constitution so that meetings will now be held weekly—a change which increases our opportunity to help the boys.

Raymond Mission

L. T. Austermell, Dept. Editor

The new year has opened very auspiciously at the Mission. Despite the fact that we are still without a pastor, there is a spirit of hopefulness pervading the work that augurs well for the future. The workers are united, the attendance at the meetings is good and the general work is well sustained. The belief that the coming of the right man as pastor, for which we are earnestly praying, will fulfill the one condition that remains for a more aggressive year than the Mission has ever known.

Dr. Day has preached on several successive Sundays to attentive hearers. His expositions of the Scriptures and earnest words of entreaty were very effective.

As a result of the meetings of Dr. de Blois spoken of below, Irene Gilmore and Chas. Sorrel were baptized Sunday morning. There have also been received by the First Church from the Mission, Geo. Saker by experience and Chas. Saker by baptism during January.

Dr. de Blois at the Mission

Something entirely new in the sixteen years experience of the Mission was the week of special meetings conducted by our Pastor. In spite of the unpropitious weather—rainy the first two nights and severely cold the rest—there was a large attendance at all meetings. The series ended Sunday night with a meeting long to be remembered by all present. Even the children, of whom there were many present listened with attention as Dr. de Blois vividly set forth the awful power for good or evil of habit—the mold in which our characters form and harden.

These meetings, with the visits of Dr. de Blois to the homes of the neighborhood have had a profound effect upon our people, making known the earnest interest felt in the Mission and the people of its neighborhood by the First Church and its Pastor. The presence at the meetings of many from the First Church, was noted with satisfaction.

Sunday School

The officers elected for the ensuing year are:

L. T. Austermell, Superintendent
A. R. Rhenisch, Ass't Superintendent
August Orth, Secretary
Henry Schmuch, Asst Secretary
Eugen Gunderson, Ass't Secretary
J. L. Rader, Treasurer
R. C. King, Librarian

Our school is in excellent condition. Our collections are double those of last year, though the attendance is about the same. We are glad to have Miss Van Fradenburg back after an absence of several months. Mr. Louis Reeder and Miss Maud Webb and Miss Kilbourne, other welcome additions to our teachers. Mr. Charles Wiltshire, a member of the Christian Church, took a class in our school, three months ago and has made every member of it his loyal helper.

In response to the earnest words of Dr. de Blois on Jan. 21st, nine of our scholars arose to declare their desire to have Christ as their guide and friend.

The scholars are making good use of New Testaments given at Christmas to every enrolled member. Over three-fourths of the scholars bring them every Sunday and they are used instead of lesson slips.

The officers of the school and about twenty teachers met Saturday, Jan. 30th at the home of Supt. Austermell. How to have better order in the school; how to increase interest in the libraray; how to induce the scholars to read the lesson at home and what are the best helps for the teachers in preparing the lesson—these were some of the topics discussed. At the close refreshments were served by Mrs. Austermell. The full attendance and general participation in the discussions were encouraging signs of a deepening interest in the welfare of the school.

An enjoyable entertainment was given at the Mission Jan. 28th by Class 15—Mr. C. G. Wilshire, teacher, assisted by some friends. The program consisted of vocal solos by Miss Maud Webb, several mirth provoking recitations by Miss Ada Reid, piano solos by Miss Eva McIntyre, a member of the class, and a fancy gun drill, by

the teacher, Mr. Wiltshire of the Chicago Fusiliers. The applause proved that the program was highly appreciated. We hope to have a series of such entertainments at intervals of about two months.

Christian Endeavor Society

The officers of the Society for the first six months of 1904 are as follows:

Russell C. King, President
Miss Mabel Coash, Vic President
Miss Elizabeth Hughes, Secretary
Harry Williamson, Treasurer

The Society is now in a flourishing condition, six new members having been recently received. An entertainment to raise funds for benevolent work of the Society, is being planned for the near future.

The Journal of the Church

H. F. Perkins, Church Clerk

Jan. 1—Friday. Ladies' Benevolent Society meeting which fell on this day was held Dec. 31.

Jan. 2—Saturday. Meeting of Boys' Club.

Jan. 3—Sunday. In the morning were held the memorial services of the U. S. Grant Post, G. A. R., with sermon by the Pastor. Evening sermon: "The Supreme Need for 1904."

Jan. 4—Monday. Men's League ad[illegible] ed by A. F. Sheldon, Presiden[illegible] Sheldon School of Scientific Salesm[illegible]

Jan. 5—Tuesday. Week of Prayer: [illegible] meeting, led by the Assistant Pastor, topic: "Our Church."

Jan. 6—Wednesday. Week of Prayer: second meeting, topic: "Our Neighborhood."

Jan. 7—Thursday. Week of Prayer: third meeting, topic: "World-wide Missions."

Jan. 8—Friday. Monthly meeting of Women's Mission Circle, topic: Africa. Week of Prayer: fourth meeting, topic: "The Kind of Growth I need in 1904."

Jan. 9—Saturday. Mr. Ozra Guest talked to the Boys' Club on his trip round the world on a man of war.

Jan. 10—Sunday. Sermons by the Pastor, morning: "The Spirit of the Generous Christ;" evening: "Our Stricken City, Second Thoughts and Serious Questions."

Jan. 13—Wednesday. Annual business meeting. Reports from officers and organizations and election of officers.

Jan. 15—Friday. Meeting of the Ladies' Benevolent Society. Christian Endeavor prayer meeting, led by Miss Helen Pickett, topic: "Personal Responsibility in Missionary Work."

Jan. 16—Saturday. Meeting of the Boys' Club.

Jan. 17—Sunday. The Pastor preached in the morning upon, "The Bible in the Development of Christian Character." Annual collection for the Sunday School. Topic of evening sermon: "The Tragedy of the Selfish Man."

Jan. 18—Monday. Men's League Social. Excellent reading by Mr. Geo. M. Krebs, and popular music by Barney's Trio. College songs by all.

Jan. 19—Tuesday. Meeting and social [illegible] the Sunday School teachers and officers. Gospel meeting at Raymond Mission led by Dr. de Blois.

Jan. 20—Wednesday. Prayer and social service, led by the Assistant Pastor, topic: "The Characteristics of the Christian." Rom. 8. Gospel meeting at Raymond Mission addressed by Dr. de Blois. Embroidery Tea at Mrs. Downe's, 4322 Ellis Ave.

Jan. 21—Thursday. Gospel meeting at Raymond Mission addressed by Dr. de Blois.

Jan. 22—Friday. Christian Endeavor prayer meeting, led by Miss Alice Ulrich and Miss Mary Marx, topic: "How may I Overcome my Temptations?" I Cor. 10: 12, 13; Heb. 4:14-16. Gospel meeting at Raymond Mission addressed by Dr. de Blois.

Jan. 23—Saturday. Boys' Club entertained by exhibition drill by Mr. Geo. Wiltshire of the Chicago Fusiliers.

Jan. 24—Sunday. The Pastor preached in the morning upon, "The Strength of the Church." Sermon in the evening by the Assistant Pastor, upon "The Knock at the Door." Preaching at Raymond Mission by the Pastor.

Jan. 25—Monday Monthly meeting of Amoret Henson Guild; classes in sewing, basket-weaving and singing. Conference of the Christian Endeavor committees.

Jan. 27—Wednesday. Missionary Tea

by the Young Ladies' Missionary Society at the home of Miss Elizabeth Knight, 3336 Rhodes Ave. Prayer and social service, topic: "Praise and Duty." Luke 24:51-53; Mark 16:19, 20.

Jan. 29—Friday. Special meeting of the Ladies' Benevolent Society. Christian Endeavor prayer meeting led by Miss Elizabeth Pickett, topic: "What are some tests of repentance?" Luke 3:8-14; Ps. 2.

Jan. 30—Saturday. Military company of Boys' Club drilled by Col. Emery.

Jan. 31—Sunday. The Pastor preached in the morning upon, "The Master's Touch," and in the evening upon, "The Prophet's Challenge."

Changes in Membership

Additions

By Baptism:
Miss Cathryn R. Beery, 2951 Vernon Ave
Miss Eva M. Burchett, 204 31st St.
Miss Edith A. Durham, 165 36th St.
Raymond Edling, 3601 Honore St.
Miss Irene L. Gilmore, 3026 Poplar Ave.
Miss Clara Saker, 2805 Canal St.
Charles H. Sorrell, 2900 Poplar Ave.
Mrs. Jacob E. Steele, 3030 Vernon Ave.

By Letter:
Ozra B. Guest, 3345 Vernon Ave.

By Experience:
Jacob E. Steele, 3030 Vernon Ave.
Geo. W. Saker, 2805 Canal St.
Mrs. A. Charlesworth, 2535 Wabash Ave

Diminutions

By Letter:
Miss Bessie Reeder, Miss Grace and Miss Madeline Wiillamson, Miss Etta Pacius, Mrs. Geo. J. Everard, Mr. and Mrs. Mrs. G. L. Stock.

By Death:
Miss F. A. Brooks, Mrs. Chas. Duffield,

Marriages

Halloway—Whitcomb. On Wednesday, January 27th, at Clinton, Indiana, Mr Harry Cyrus Halloway and Miss Nema Marie Whitcomb.

Church Notes

Mr. Henry L. Tolman, son of the late Rev. John N. Tolman well known about 1850 in Southern Illinois, died at his home in Evanston, January 14th. We sympathize with his step-mother, Mrs. Nancy J. Tolman in the loss of one who was to her as a son. Mr. Tolman was baptized by his father when 17 years of age and at the time of his death was a member of the Evanston Baptist Church. He was a man of marvelous capacity for study in many varied lines. He achieved a national reputation as a microscopist and figured in many prominent cases among which were the famous Davis and Rice will cases and the Molineaux murder case in New York City.

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